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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
09/144,782	09/01/1998	GHANI ABDUL MUTTALIB ABBAS	P/61149.USP/	5198
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KIRSCHSTEIN OTTINGER ISRAEL & SCHIFFMILLER 489 FIFTH AVENUE		EXAMINER		
			TON, DANG T	
NEW YORK, N	NY 10017		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2661	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence activess — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Eastence or form may be availaise under dee previous of 3 CPR 1.73(a), in no event, however, may a raph be firmly filed Period for reply specified solve is less than theirly (30) days, a ropy, which me stabulary retineman of theirly (30) days will be considered size of 1 CPR 1.73(a), in no event, however, may a raph be firmly filed If the period for reply specified above is less than theirly (30) days, a ropy, which me stabulary retineman of theirly (30) days will be considered size of 1 if the period for reply specified above is less than theirly (30) days, a ropy, which me stabulary retineman of theirly (30) days will be considered in the period for reply specified above is less than theirly (30) days, a ropy, which me stabulary retineman of their (30) days as the consideration of the period of the communication of the period of the period of the communication of the	√ ¢	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
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THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provision of 3 CFR 1.13(6). In no event, however, may a reply be limitely filled after 50 (6) MCNTIS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO pando for reply is specified above, the maximum station period within the statutory printed underly and vision of the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply visition the set or extended period for reply vill. by statutor, by extending a provision of the communication, even if simply lifed, may reduce a surple villable. Causes the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S. C. § 133). Any reply received by the fillies date than them cannial after the nailing date of this communication, even if simply lifed, may reduce any secured patient term especiation (s) filled on 26 August 2002. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3] Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4] Claim(s) 80-102 and 123-136 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. 6] Claim(s) 80-102 and 123-136 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6] Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The proposed drawing or request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) proved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The cath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority un	···					
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1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:						
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:	Attachment(s)					
	Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	5) Notice of Informal I				

Art Unit: 2661

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 98-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Ellis et al.(6,256,292).

Ellis et al. disclose a system comprising tributary interfaces arranged and configured to process signals received in contiguously concatenated from to convert them into a virtual concatenated form (see details of figure 1).

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 80-82,97,123,127,134-136 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis et al (6,256,292) in view of Chopping (5,793,760).

Ellis et al. disclose all the subject matter of the claimed invention with the exception of sequence of frames in a communications network. Chopping from the same or similar field of endeavor teaches a provision of the frame sequences. Thus, it would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skilled in that art at the time of the invention to use the frame sequence as taught by Chopping in the communications network of Ellis et al. for the purpose of making the system more reliable.

3. Claims 83-96, 124-126, and 128-133 are rejected under 35
U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis et al in view of Chopping as applied to claims 80,123, and 127 above, and further in view of Toyoyama et al.

Ellis et al and chopping disclose all the subject matter of the claimed invention with the exception of VC-4, H4, J1, B3 in a communications network. Toyoyama et al from the same or similar field of endeavor teaches a provision of the VC-4,VC-3, H4,J1,and B3. Thus, it would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use the VC-4,VC-3, B3, J1,H4 in the communications of Ellis et al and chopping as well-known advantages.

- 4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
- 5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANG T TON whose telephone number is 703-

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305-4739. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-WED, 5:30 AM-6:00 PM and Thur 5:30-9:30 A.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DOUG OLMS can be reached on 703-305-4703. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

9/23/2002

September 23, 2002

DANG TON PRIMARY EXAMINER